The
COMMEMORATOR

Special Edition: Black Panther Party 46th. Anniversary Issue!!

CCBPP - Vol. 22 Issue 1 - OCTOBER 22, 2012

PAINTING DEPICTING **RICHARD AOKI**, FORMER MEMBER OF THE BLACK PANTHER PARTY, WHO REMAINED A LOYAL COMERADE AND WAS TRUE TO THE CAUSE TO THE VERY END. ARTWORK BY EMORY DOUGLASS

The FBI's Misinformation Campaign Against Aoki

Nation's Top Cops Use Outdated Tactic in Attempt to Smear Reputation of Former BPP Member

Commemorator Staff

RICHARD MASATO AOKI, Black Panther Party founding member and Field Marshal, long-time Bay Area resident and activist, groundbreaking educator in Asian-American ethnic studies, co-founder of Third World Liberation Front and a loyal comrade to the end.

Born in 1938 in San Leandro, California, Richard learned early about the impact of imperialist wars and institutional racial oppression inside the United States. At age four, Richard and his family were arrested and incarcerated in a concentration camp for Americans of Japanese ancestry in Topaz, Utah.

They were forced to remain in the internment camp for three years, not being released until the end of WWII, penalized for something that neither his family nor any one else in the camp had anything to do with -- the Japanese government attack on Pearl Harbor of December 7, 1941.

Richard's family moved to West Oakland in the 1950's and then to Berkeley where he attended Berkeley High School. Upon graduating in 1957, he served eight years in the U.S. Army and was honorably discharged in 1964.

As a student at and then Merritt College (Then called Oakland City College) he re-met Huey P, Newton, whom he had known as a youth. Richard was a part of BPP seminal membership, held the rank of a Field Marshal.

While Richard was an ordinary guy, he was also an extraordinary person who bonded with people from all spectrum of life. Never was Richard too proud to interact and engage people of different cultural backgrounds; as a matter of fact he loved it.

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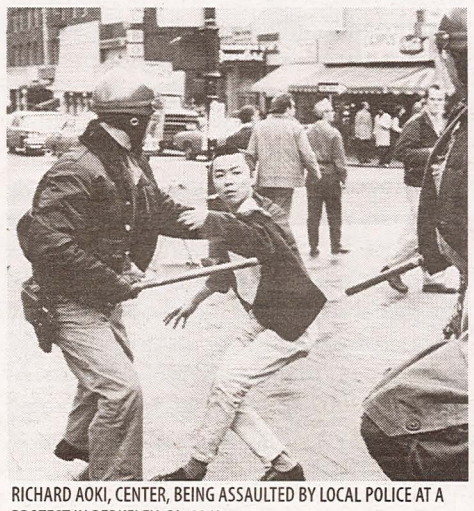


RICHARD AOKI, CENTER, BEING ASSAULTED BY LOCAL POLICE AT A PROTEST IN BERKELEY, CA, 1968.

BLACK PANTHER HISTORY MONTH

Educate and Participate!

Workshops, Exhibits, Speakers, & More...

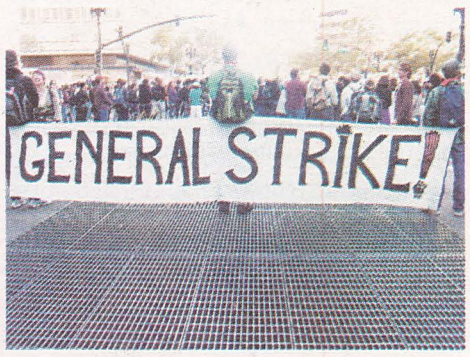
(Details on page 5)

O.C.S.

Panther's Oakland Community School Ahead of Its Time

The Oakland Community School (OCS) evolved from the Intercommunal Youth Institute which started in late 1969, while Huey Newton was still imprisoned, at the time it was called the "Sam Napier/Huey P. Newton Youth Institute". By 1973, after Huey Newton was released, the school opened its doors to the general community

» Read more, **PG. 4**



OCCUPY OAKLAND FINDS ITS ROOTS

Oakland's Newest Progressive Political Movement

Melvin DIckson, Editor

What to be done about the problems our collective community face?

First, is the disparity in the living conditions between those who have and those who have not. The disparities are negatively felt by those who have not. They haven't a

» Read More, **PG. 2**

INSIDE...

BEHIND ENEMY LINES

Political prisoners speak. Read recent articles by Panthers held in prison.

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"FREE HUEY", 1968

The trial that set the movement on fire. See rarely shown courtroom sketches from the trial.

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MUMIA WITNESS SPEAKS

In a new book, Veronica Jones, sole eye witness in the case says Mumia was framed.

>> Page 3

FREE HUEY, 1968

The Spark That Lit the Fire

The Trial of Huey P. Newton Remembered 44 Years Later

Melvin Dickson, Former BPP Member

The 1968 trial of Huey P. Newton for the alleged murder of an Oakland police officer was a pivotal event in the volatile mix that was the movement of the 1960s. The "FREE HUEY" Movement began in Oakland and spread across the US to the streets of Harlem, Chicago, Boston, Los Angeles, Memphis, on and on.

Alameda District Attorney, Lowell Jensens led the prosecution, and after failing to convict Newton on first degree murder,

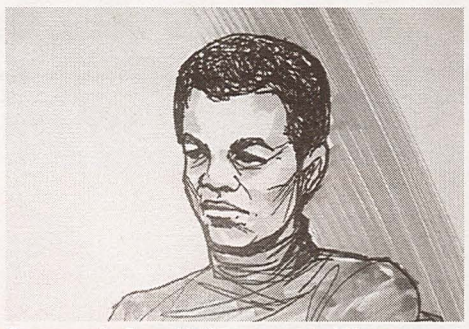
Huey Newton's wounds are examined by court officials in this courtroom sketch by Water Stewart, from 1968.

Jensens got a manslaughter, a second degree conviction. Jensen then went on to the Federal Bench with a political appointment from Ronald Reagan, who was the governor of California in 1968. Because of the vast amount of publicity this trial generate throughout the county. It sparked the Free Huey Movement on the left hand, and on the right hand, the trial help catapult Reagan to the Presidency.

Just as the courtroom audience paid close attention, so did the residents of the greater Oakland and the east bay communities pay close attention. The masses were drawn to this trial, and an electrical-type dynamic was felt by many in the local community due to much focus on the trial and the closeness the trial, many people felt that the community was on trial.

As a consequence, the Black Panther Party gave impetus to the Civil Rights movement in the South, the anti-war movement on the college campuses, the militant movement in US ghettos, and to rural populations in Appalachia became an important of address for the U.S. Government. Remember, Lil Bobby Hutton was gunned down on April 6, 1968 by members of the Oakland Police Department just two days after Dr. King was assassinated. Assassinations, imprisonment, infiltration, misinformation, and increase police repression became the order of the day.

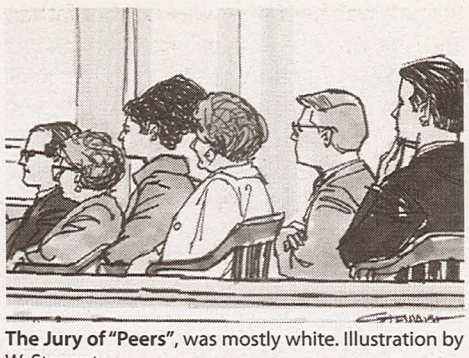
Judge Monroe Friedman presided over the trial of Huey P. Newton. Illustration by W. Stewart



Commerade Gene McKinney, was held in contempt of court during the trial. Illustration by W. Stewart

In the meantime, the idea of self-determination and by any means necessary caught on by the many grassroots organizations and became manifested in the many programs, organized by the leadership of that movement including arm-self defense, largely led by members the Black and oppressed inner-city communities were the repression were felt the most (directly). This became the initial thrust that based the Party programs. This including the BPP police alert patrol, the BPP children Free Breakfast programs, The many food-give-a-ways to all in need in the local low-income neighborhoods, especially in the inner cities.

The implementation of the many BPP liberation schools for the youth that became a part of the new branches and chapters throughout the inner cities were these fundamental needs were increasing daily across the country. And then there was the Free medical clinics, the fight against Sickle

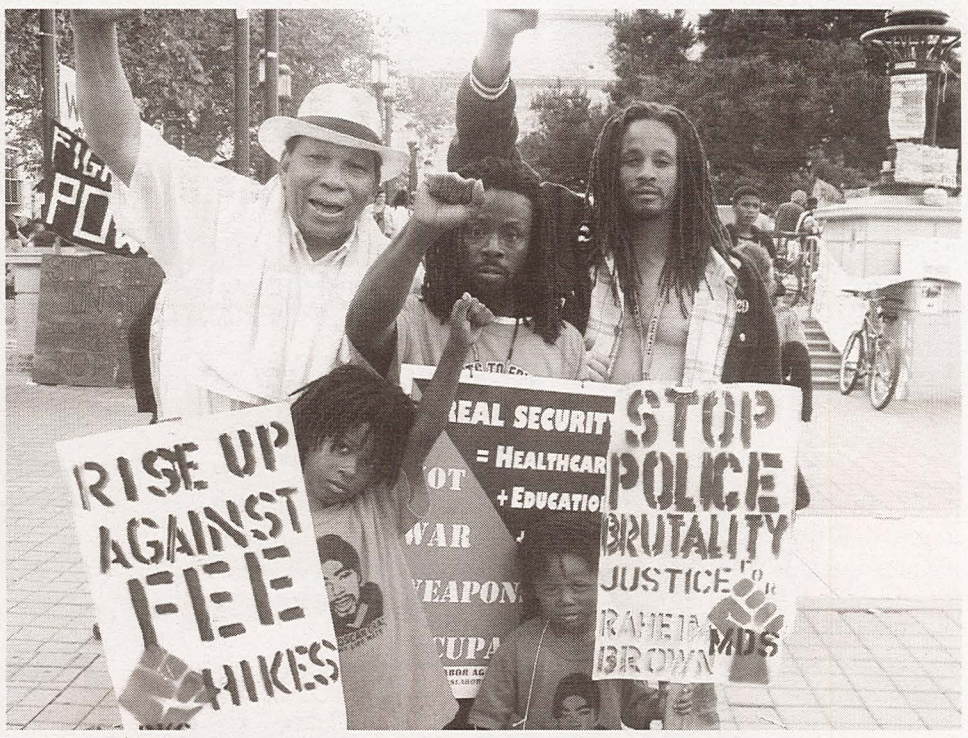


The Jury of "Peers", was mostly white. Illustration by W. Stewart

Cell Anemia across the country (Sickle Cell a deadly blood disease in the predominate black communities). As well as, the fact that we organized a voting registration program as the party ran Bobby Seale and Elaine Brown for the Mayor and City Council District 3, respectively.These campaigns and programs where organized simultaneously etc. while maintaining a community presence in the progressive culture, the Oakland Community Learning Center, and the Oakland Community School, (OCS) and dozens of programs, for instance. The OSC operated up to the early 1980s, 9 years. As recent as 2007, former students celebrated their legacy in Oakland, hosting a Pinic at Diamond Park...

It all started when the powers that be put Huey on trial for defending himself.

See more courtroom sketches from the trial, and read more about the events and people involved ine "Free Huey" movement at our website, www.commemorator.net



Melvin Dickson, (far left) former member of the Black Panther Party, and current Editor-In-Chief of CCBPP's *The Commemorator* newspaper, at Occupy Oakland with young activists in 2011.

OCCUPY'S ROOTS

« *Continued from page 1*

living wage income, cannot afford decent housing, and have no real access to a reasonably competitive educational system. Although other factors, like sexism, militate against the interests of those who have not, the biggest problems are still found along the race line.

These conditions are essentially and historically intertwined with the Haves and Have-nots. On a day-to-day level, the problem of economic exploitation and its concomitant secondary problems need to be identified. For this reason, one needs to analyze both theses problems, as well as the best manner of solving them. One of these solutions may include low-income and working class communities' adoption of sustainable energy and other environmentally friendly practices.

We use to call these sustainable practices, "community control," "self-determination," or "liberation" (It's still liberation and self-determination, today, to liberation our communities from the 1%).

We make no bones about the fact that these problems of exploitation and oppression are intertwined with racial and sexual innuendoes that too often keep the 99% confused and fighting among themselves. These distractions also divide the masses that would also organize real empowerment. This is the struggle for liberation against the 1%. This fight is at the same time the fight against their neocolonial and fascist domination of the social economic processes on both Wall Street and Main Street.

Does this reality justify one to ignore racial and sexual exploitation and discrimination? Definitely No. The reality gives one a conscious and framework of how to approach concomitant secondary issues arrived from the capitalist institutions and oppressive conditions these institution produce -- objectifying both race and sex. This approach is consistent with the notion to win for one's class, one's community.

We win with our entire class, otherwise it not a genuine win. It is then a taking from Peter to pay Paul. As we know this approach do not get to the roots of the problem, and end up pitting Peter against Paul. We have to find a way to level enough collective power to demand the redistribution of this wealth the 1% has accumulated over generations of exploitation and oppression and wars of aggression. This then becomes a common understanding for activists to build a progressive future and exemplary community. This community is where the collective masses acquire -- at least a minimal -- the fundamentals in order for a vibrant community to exist and move forward. This is where we need to begin, where we build real safety nets without holes where no one can fall through.

While our goal and task are monumental, we need to do this to succeed in the first leg of this second phase of a colossus challenge. The first step is to build a unity of idea and of will on the basic of a struggle to end poverty, against class exploitation, and oppression of one's society and one's environment. This unity presupposes an

Foreclose On The 1%, an Occupy Oakland protester suggests with a picket sign.

understanding that the masses have to end the generations of racial and economic exploitation and oppression. At the same time, one must deal with the main problem of the capitalist class struggle. We cannot drop our vigilance; we must address the intertwined problems of race and sex by framing those struggles within the main problem of capitalist that is based on the Haves and the Have-nots.

Speaking the truth and acting on that reality is what wins the Revolution.

All Power to the People!

This article is first in a series about the Occupy Movement, it's origins in the Civil RIghts Movement, and its absorption to the philosophy of the Black Panther Party.

BEHIND ENEMY LINES

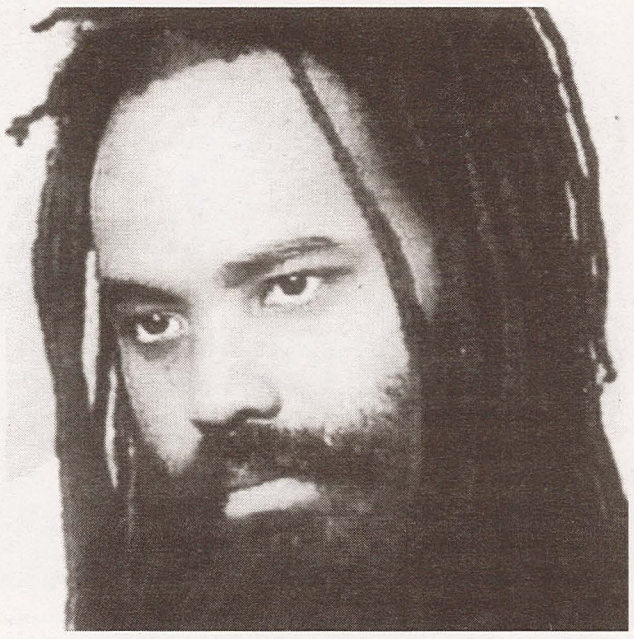
Eye-Witness in Murder Trial Says Mumia Framed

Veronica Jones speaks out in new book, claims FBI, police forced her to lie in case against Jamal.

By Melvin DIckson

The book is a must read. For one to learn about the depth of a past and current repression nothing comes across like a picture does, to learn the reality of a given situation. Veronica Jones looks back and captured that picture. As a victim, her book captures a vivid account of the city of Philadelphia, and the State of Pennsylvania (underbelly) during the early 1980s up to now. In telling her story, Veronica Jones who lived and struggle through it all, holds nothing back. As a prime victim of that so-called criminal justice system, she portrays street life and the so-called criminal justice system as real as it gets.

"As a witness in this case, I Veronica Jones firmly believes in my heart that Mumia Abu-Jamal is innocent. Put aside the mishap of the trial itself. I base my belief on the intimidation and humiliation I was forced to endure because of this case – a case that has plagued my entire adult life from the time I was 20 years old to now."



Mumia Abu Jamal Sentenced to death over 40 years ago, was framed, witness Veronica Jones claims in starling new book.

In the mid 1980s, the only difference in Philly and other U.S. cities is this: This was the time when Veronica Jones crossed the path of, initially, officer Daniel Faulkner, and later on, in Judge Sabo's court, Mumia Abu Jamal. This led Veronica to one of the largest crime orchestration in US law-enforcement corruption: beating and rape against prostitutes remained a common practice.

Rachel Wolkenstein, who represented Mumia after she heard about the railroading of him in 1987, sums up Mumia many court and legal hearings in the last section of Veronica book, written by her sister, Valeria Jones. The section of the book provides a penetrating analysis of the legal ordeal in defending Mumia for the past 25 years. She joined Mumia's defense team, explaining, "my relationship to Mumia…when I learned that he was on death row facing a legal lynching."

In fact, the FBI and the Philadelphia police had targeted Mumia since he was a young teenager. Mumia Abu-Jamal is a former Black Panther Party founding member of the Philadelphia chapter. He is a prominent awarding winning radio journalist know as the "voice of the voiceless" and a supporter of the MOVE organization.

Veronica Jones who does not mince any words in telling her story about how she got caught up in the underbelly of the streets of Philadelphia. Nevertheless, the so-called criminal justice system of that city is not unusual but quite typical in United States, especially in cities where poverty is build and politically maintained systemically. Because illegal drugs, numbers, and prostitution are all controlled by organized crime and government officials, including city policemen. (http://www.justicedenied.org/issue/issue_23/thin_blue_lie.html)

"I didn't know the woman, Veronica Jones, who testified at my trial on June 29, 1982. But the look on her face denoted her vibration that she didn't want to be there," said Mumia Abu Jamal.

At a young age of 14, Veronica Jones, smart, bright and compassionate, organized a successful benefit for an elder neighbor who needed a kidney. She raised over $2,000 to pay for the operation, but 6 years later, her life and turned into a nightmare that would drastically change her for the rest of her life.

As life in poor neighborhood has their own set of dynamics with all its twists and turns, sometime up, sometime down. By the time Veronica was 20 years old she had experienced sexual molestation, and humiliation regarding the identity of who she was; she learned that the person she though was her father was not her father, and she was not able to deal with that at the time. In her household, with her relatives attitudes changed. Missing this (love), this vital affected her once father-daughter-relationship. At a very tender age of 14 she sought love elsewhere and became pregnant eventually, being without low-income, developed an urge to hustle on

» Continued on pg. 5

Solitary Confinement on Trial - Angola 3 Speak

As American Prisons Come Under Scrutiny, The Angola 3 Address Senate Judiciary Committee

Robert King, Herman Wallace, and Albert Woodfox

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Graham:

My name is Robert Hillary King. I spent 29 years in solitary before I was freed in 2001 after proving my innocence. Since then I have worked tirelessly speaking and traveling around the world to raise awareness about prison conditions in the US, and to bring attention to the remaining two members of the Angola 3—Herman Wallace and Albert Woodfox—who are still actively fighting to prove their innocence in federal court. Both remain behind solitary bars in Louisiana today after 40 years.

Many people ask me to describe my nearly 3 decades in solitary. Here is an excerpt from my autobiography where I attempted to put these experiences into words:

"Solitary confinement is terrifying, especially if you are innocent of the charges that put you there. It evokes a lot of emotion. It was a nightmare. My soul still cries from all I witnessed and endured. It mourns continuously. Through the course of my confinement I saw men so desperate that they ripped prison doors apart and both starved and mutilated themselves. It takes every scrap of humanity to stay focused and sane in that environment. The pain and suffering are everywhere, constantly with you. There's no describing the day to day assault on your body and your mind and the feelings of hopelessness and despair."

Over a decade ago Herman, Albert and I filed a landmark civil lawsuit challenging the inhumane and increasingly pervasive practice of long-term solitary confinement. Magistrate Judge Dalby describes our almost four decades of solitary as "durations so far beyond the pale" she could not find "anything even remotely comparable in the annals of American jurisprudence." The case, expected to go to trial by 2013, will detail unconstitutionally cruel and unusual treatment and systematic due process violations at the hands of Louisiana officials.

To mark the 40th anniversary of Herman and Albert's original placement in solitary, this April Amnesty International delivered a petition with 67,000 signatures from 125 countries to the Governor of Louisiana demanding that Herman Wallace and Albert Woodfox be removed from long term isolation, stating:

"Prison records show that neither man has committed any serious disciplinary infraction for decades. Prison mental health records indicate that the men pose no threat to themselves or to others.

Woodfox and Wallace are confined to their 6.5 by 9 feet cells for 23 hours a day and allowed out only to exercise alone in a small outdoor cage, or to shower or walk along the cell unit corridor.

They have also been denied any meaningful review of the reasons for their isolation. The only reason given for maintaining

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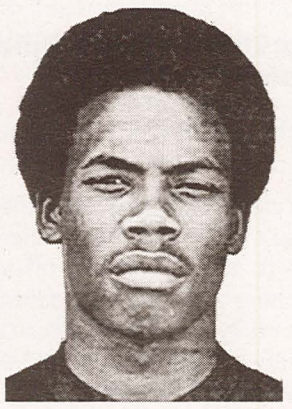
FREE MINDED

Romaine "Chip" Fitzgerald was imprisoned 43 years ago, and is currently the longest serving US polical Prisoner.



Romaine "Chip" Fitzgerald, 1969

4 April 2012

The prison guards didn't come through for the anticipated search yesterday & they won't be through today either. The white convict porter who is assigned to work in this building (the white & asian convicts are not on lockdown) told me that the goon squad is somewhere on this yard with dogs searching for contraband. It's my opinion that they are primarily looking for cellular communications. Just as we have witnessed how social media has become a tool of resistance & revolution in the digital era, convicts too have adopted the technology as a tool of resistance. We witnessed it in the statewide hunger strike that was put into effect. Communications, education & organization do not serve the prison bureaucrats pursuit of absolute control over convicts. They want convicts young & dumb … easy to manipulate for their foul purposes.

So the presidential campaigns are now in full swing for the November election. The grand hoodwink is being played out once again on the American people … the ruling circle is again creating the illusion that there is a fundamental choice between Frick & Frack – there is none. Both Democrats & Republicans represent the same predatory, capitalistic interests. A radical/revolutionary agenda would be demanding redistribution of the wealth, worker/people ownership of the basic means of production, participatory democracy where the people can exercise some direct influence on government policies that impact their lives. But this is certainly not what we're hearing from either party. We're getting the same tired promises that ultimately result in more disappointments & the diminishing value of the dollar. What the US promotes as 'democracy' is really an exercise of mass manipulation. The candidates & the issues are selected & put before the people by the ruling circle, independent of the voters. & there are so many obstacles in place to prevent independent, non-establishment endorsed candidates/ issues from going before the public for a vote. In effect, it's like the people have no vote at all! But after going through this process of/exercise in illusion, the people are told – & many believe – this is freedom, this is democracy. They are playing out their hand against a stacked deck! That's the bourgeois democratic process.

Checking out the news reports coming out of Afghanistan & Pakistan in the last few months, I'm beginning to see that region

» Continued on pg. 6

OAKLAND COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Former Teacher Cherishes Memories

"Motto: The World is a Child's Classroom"

Gayle "Asali" Dickson

I was a preschool instructor at the school for a couple of years and while there, I was also able to use my skill and talent in art as a teaching assistant. One contribution was that I drew the logo for the Oakland Community School's letterhead. Actually there are two experiences from my time at the School that are memorable to me. But I am only going to tell you one of them.

One of the students in my preschool class was a pretty little girl, with a very beautiful, melodic soprano voice. However, I couldn't understand a word she said. When she spoke, it was like she was singing in tones. Her words were not discernable to my ear. It was as if she didn't form her lips around her teeth to make words.

My most memorable experience was when I first heard this little girl who spoke in melodic, soprano sing-song tones, or what might seem to some as whining – when this little girl spoke audible, discernable words; words that I could understand.

It began when the School took the my class on a field trip to Coit Towers, located in Pioneer Park on Telegraph Hill in San Francisco. These 2-5 year olds got on a bus or van in East Oakland and we traveled through the city of Oakland, on the freeway, over the Bay Bridge where there were fish below the water and boats on the water, and there were birds, clouds and planes above the bridge in the sky. Then we entered the big city of San Francisco.

We traveled through the City to an area called Telegraph Hill where Coit Tower is located. This tower has an interesting history. It is actually a memorial to honor Lillian Coit who left the City 1/3 or her estate for beautification projects. Lillian Coit was wealthy, loved San Francisco and was a volunteer firefighter. Eventually she was recognized as an official fire fighter. There were many fires in the city of San Francisco at that time due to its many wooden structures.

Diego Rivera was commissioned to paint a mural inside Coit Tower. His mural depicted some ideas that did not sit well with the controlling interest in the memorial. He painted Lenin's face in the mural. His portion was destroyed. However, the assistants he had working with him continued work on the mural and completed it in the spirit of Diego Rivera.

At Coit Tower on Telegraph Hill, the children got a chance to look through the binoculars. However, they could get a panoramic view of San Francisco whether they looked through the binoculars or not. I can imagine how "free" these "babies" must have felt in a supervised sort of way. We got a chance to visit the display section of the tower. We probably ate lunch and returned to the school. I drew an outline of our field trip on some butcher paper and pinned it to

» Continued on pg. 5

Students from all over Oakland, Calif. were welcomed to attend the Oakland Community School, regardless of race or ethnic background. Ethnic diversity and milti-cultural curriculum, combined with teaching poltical awareness, were just a few of the ways the school stood out from the rest, and created an example for the future.

« O.C.S. - A MODEL OF EDUCATION AHEAD OF ITS TIME, Continued from page 1

in East Oakland at 6118 East 14th street (now International Blvd.).

The site, today, is the location of Men Of Valor, which continue to provide services to the low-income black community that is run by a local Black Church

By 1974, the school decided to change its name due to fact that more and more children from the general community signed up to enroll. No longer exclusively serving Black Panther Party member's children, the school as well broaden it's reach. The school became a part of a larger entity, the Oakland Community Learning Center (OCLC/a 501-3 non-profit) became a part of numerous BPP program organized from the 6118 East 14th street facility up until 1982, the last year of the program. The name changed (Oakland Community School) came along with the opening the school up to the greater community.

With that OCS not only broaden its reach to serving the community, but equally so, broaden its reach into the families and friends of the community, as well as the surrounding communities. Many people who visited the 6118 East 14th facility, learned about the Teens, After School Program, the Senior Citizens Safe Against a Fearful Environment (SAFE/escort service), or they learned about the GED Adult Education Program, or they would learned about the Martial Arts Program, or they would learn about the Free Commissary for Prisoners, or they would learn about the weekly film series, or the Teens Fild Trips.

By 1976, the school to broaden its curriculum with freshly painted and beautifully redecorated building, the product of long hours of hard work voluntarily donated by parents, staff members and other supporters of the popular East Oakland School.

In past years, OCS students, ages 21/2 to 11, were organized into eight groups. That structure had been changed, however, with the creation of 12 levels that allowed the School to expand its curriculum into secondary education.

Providing some insight into why the curriculum has been enlarged, OCS director Ericka Huggins explained how the previous years an eight-year-old boy attending the School excelled in mathematics, performing on a high school level. Since he was too young to go to high school but had the ability to do some high school work, the OCS staff began to see the need for creating a new curriculum structure to meet his needs and those of others like him.

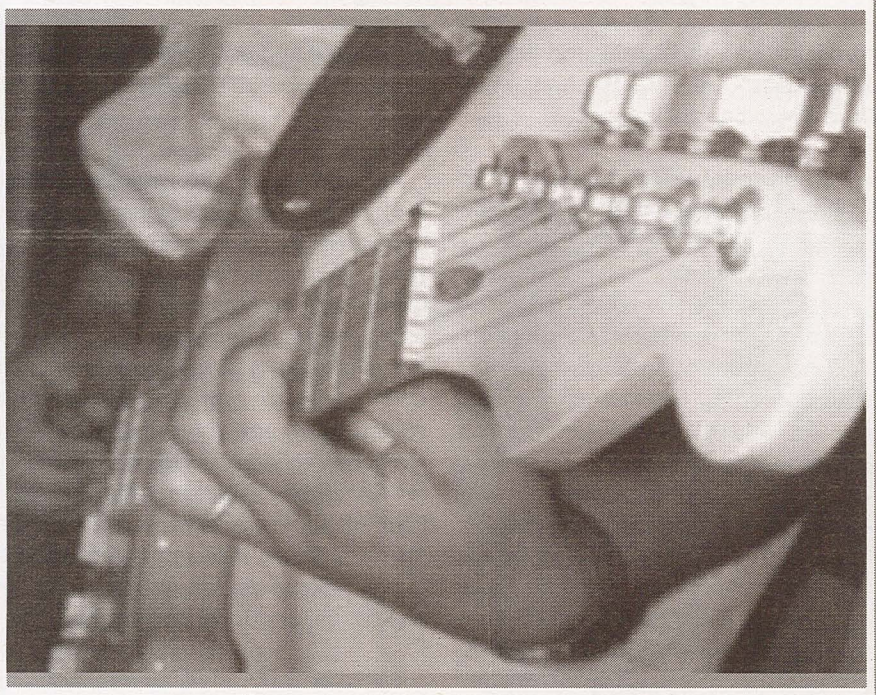
The-12 levels – 1 through 3, preschool; 4 through 5, primary, and 7-12, econdary – provid a method whereby children who excel in a particular area can receive the specialized instruction they require. Other children, then, are not pressured to perform beyond their abilities. A 10-year-old child may be in Level 11's mathematics class but in Level 8 for instruction in Language Arts. In this way, the overall educational goal is achieved – enabling the children to learn at their own rate of speed, a situation almost totally lacking in the highly competitive atmosphere of the public school system.

Besides the model approach to education—focusing on teaching the children how to think, not what to think – the school provided three free meals a day, free medical care and clothing for those who need it. Classes include Language Arts, Social Studies, Science, Mathematics, Art, Music, Physical Education and Environmental Studies. Field trips were a vital part of the School's curriculum, in line with the OCS motto, "The World is The Children's Classroom."

Teachers and Faculty not only cared about the education of their students, they cared about their students as human beings. Teachers prepared meals for their students, as well as lesson plans. This "Communalist" approach made the Oakland Community School function more like a family than an institution.

Geoffrey's
INNER CIRCLE

MUSIC • DANCE • COMEDY



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MEMORIES, continued from page 4

the display wall next to the entrance to the classroom. The children and I talked about the field trip using the portable "mural" I drew. Afterwards, I instructed those whose parent picked them up from school, to be sure to talk about the field trip they went on. For the children we dropped off to their parents on the other sides of town, I instructed them to be sure to tell their parents also, about the field trip.

The mother of the little girl with the sing-song voice who either spoke or whined in tones came to pick her up. The little girl ran to her mother and pulled her over to the "mural" push-pinned to the wall next to the entrance and proceeded to speak in tones that were actually discernable to my ear as she enthusiastically described her field trip experience to her mother. I remember being surprised and feeling proud, and her mom being quietly/modestly/shyly surprised as we exchanged looks.

At the Oakland Community School, I don't recall my talent in art being denied and it seems that I was given a lot of freedom to use my talent to teach these preschoolers the basics that would prepare them to enter kindergarten confidently.

In the Parable of the Loaned Money (Matthew 25.14-18), A man going on a journey entrusted his property to his servants. "To one he gave five talents of money, to another two talents, and to another one talent, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey. The man who had received the five talents went at once and put his money to work and gained five more. So also, the one with the two talents gained two more. But the man who had received the one talent went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his mater's money." Perhaps you could say that basically, the school invested in my talent as an instructor, and they invested in the children they taught as the future.

With the threat of schools closing like in Chicago, (what is Oakland's rate of school closure. What condition are Oakland's schools), and the poor quality in which these schools are, in terms of building maintenance and upkeep, simple school supplies e.g., new books and access to school libraries, and updated equipment to stretch the talent of our children, our children's talents are about to be "put in a place where their talent will be hidden or under a bowl." Why are powers and forces trying to keep the light within our youth in darkness? The unjust conditions some of our talent is relegated to are tantamount to destroying the world as a classroom. It is paramount that all our youth experience other world cultures in the interest of world unity, harmony and balance, i.e., Wisdom in Proverb 8. Why are these forces working hard to shrink the classroom size for our youth? The talent of our young people is supposed to be "put on a stand, so that those who come in may see the light." (Luke 11.33).

VERONICA, continued from page 3

the streets for income to raise her three young daughters.

The fast streets of close-by Philadelphia because the apple of Veronica's eye to take care of her 3 daughters that she had giving birth to while living at her home in Camden New Jersey with her mother and her 3 daughters and 3 siblings living near by.

Yes, it was Camden where Veronica grew-up as a child, but it was the bright lights and the fast lane of South Philadelphia at a youthful age of 20 where she eventually was raped by two Philadelphia police officers, and where she eventually found her Sainthood in standing for justice and peace telling the truth as to what she witness on the mean streets of Philly, especially the night December 9, 1981.

"Veronica & The Case of Mumia Abu Jamal - As Told To Her Sister Valerie Jones"

by Valerie Jones.

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BPP PHOTO EXHIBIT
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Workshops, Photo Exhibit, Speakers

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UNDERGROUND BOOKSTORE
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Lords Of The Revolution
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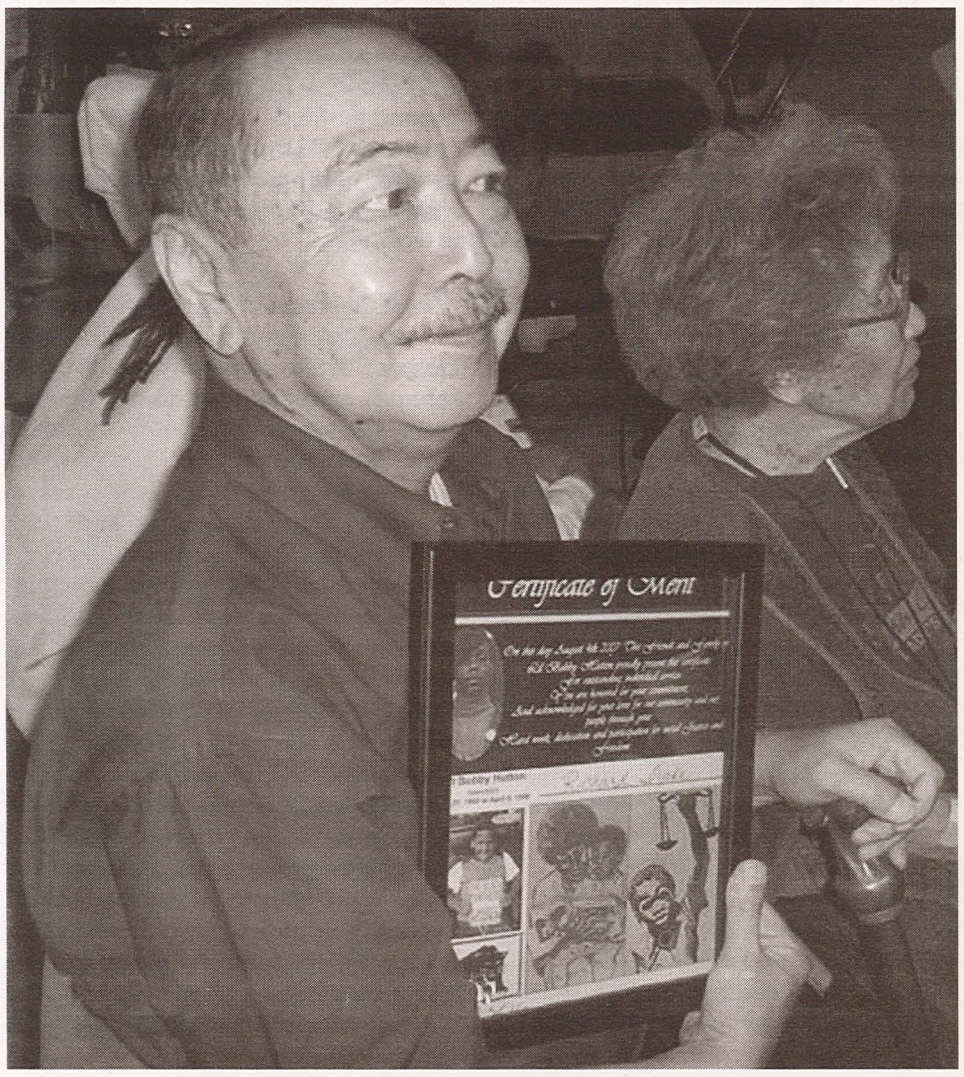
AOKI, continued from page 1



A very proud Richard AOKI holds the "Lil Bobby Hutton appreciation certificate" that he received from the commemoration committee for the black panther party's adult/child literacy program in 2007. Next to him sitsYuri Kojiyama, another japanese-american civil rights activist, and personal friend of Malcolm X. Photo by Melvin Dickson.

Richard made it a point whenever he could, to be a presence whenever he happened to be in the Bay Area communities, promoting support for the many just causes he talked about, such as the attacks against the working class communities, the imperialist war in Iraq, the ongoing campaign against police violence in the poor communities throughout the country and world. Richard stood on the side with the toiling masses.

What I recognized in Richard was his political astuteness and his perspective on world history. He never stop encouraging one to try to do a better job in ending imperialist aggression that promotes fascist conditions on working class people and the exploitation of the toiling class of people everywhere.

"Free Geronimo Ji Jaga!" Geronimo (former Pratt) was indeed framed by the FBI for a crime he did not commit. Richard demanded along with many other supporters who were calling for Geronimo's release. Richard could talk a mouth-full, especially when it comes to revolution, wars of aggression, US imperialism, and the day-to-day agitation and struggle to free all political prisoners.

Richard was always greeted warmly by the many youths he met while participating and supporting the Lil Bobby Hutton adult-youth/literacy campaign.

ANGOLA 3, continued from page 3

the men under these conditions has been due to the "nature of the original reason for lockdown.

Amnesty International is firm in its belief that conditions for the men in CCR – 23 hour cellular confinement in stark, tiny cells; limited access to books, newspapers and TV; no opportunities for mental stimulation, work and education; occasional visits from friends and family and limited telephone calls - amounts to cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment."

They go on to detail the human rights violations involved in such extreme confinement:

"In a recent report, the UN Special Rapporteur on Torture condemned prolonged isolation as amounting to torture or inhuman and degrading treatment. He refers to the case of Albert Woodfox and Herman Wallace in his report.

The USA has an obligation under international standards to ensure that all prisoners, regardless of their background, are treated humanely and that any security measures that may be necessary conform to this requirement. The prolonged and indefinite isolation of Albert Woodfox and Herman Wallace without meaningful review runs directly counter to this obligation.

The USA has ratified the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and the UN Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, both of which prohibit torture or other ill-treatment. The relevant treaty monitoring bodies (the Human Rights Committee and the Committee Against Torture) have found that prolonged solitary confinement an amount to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment. Both bodies have expressed concern that the harsh conditions of long-term isolation in some US segregation facilities are incompatible with the USA's treaty obligations.

Amnesty International believes their findings are particularly significant in the case of Albert Woodfox and Herman Wallace given that few, if any, other prisoners have spent so long in solitary confinement in recent times.

Their treatment also contravenes the UN Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners. These and other relevant standards emphasize the importance of providing work and educational, recreational, religious and cultural activities for prisoners' mental and physical wellbeing, as well as to prepare individuals for reintegration into society."

We respectfully submit this statement with the hopes that you can use your legislative powers to put an end to long term solitary confinement. Without uniform standards of the infractions serious enough to merit placement, a meaningful review process with outside oversight and a grievance process, opportunities for socialization and education, and a clear written timeline and detailed action plan for the inmate's release, this form of punishment serves no punitive or reformative purpose. In our view is the very definition of cruel and unusual punishment protected against by our founding fathers.

We believe that only by openly examining the failures and inequities of the criminal justice system in America can we restore integrity to that system. We are grateful for your efforts to do just that today.

Sincerely,

"The Angola 3" - Robert King, Herman Wallace, and Albert Woodfox

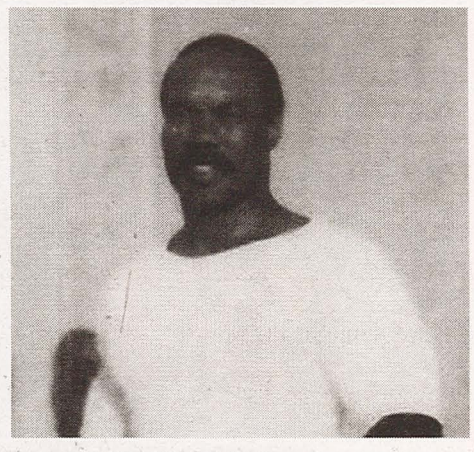
"CHIP" FITZGERALD, continued from page 3

in a much different light. While there is an undercurrent of indigenous political movements to overthrow the elitist national bourgeoisie, there seems to be a genuine unity of opposition of the people of the region to the imperialist encroachments & arrogance of the US & their NATO allies.

The US government just announced a $10 million reward for the capture of a Pakistani terrorist suspected in the Mumbai, India bombing. The so-called terrorist suspect held a press conference in Pakistan. Certainly this act is an insult/open slap in the face to the US – particularly by the Pakistani Intelligence apparatus who took a hit to their professional prestige when Bin Laden was killed on their territory.

I checked out the movie Avatar not long ago. It captured the very essence of racial supremacy & the practice of imperialism. Where one race perceives differences in another race & weakness is read into those differences, there's an assumption of superiority over that race. This was the pattern of the Caucasian with the expansion out of Europe.

The crackers operate on the can't-be-proven notion that white people have a divine right/ mission to dominate the planet & to rapaciously exploit its resources. They also embrace the philosophical worldview of social darwinism to justify their psychopathic racial personality/behavior: that might makes right.



ROMAINE "CHIP" FITZGERALD, in the most recent photo available, from the early 1990's.

& people of color, particularly people of Afrikan descent have been conditioned/ programmed for hundreds of years to buy into the bullshit. The following is a quote from Rasta And Resistance by Horace Campbell:

"Blacks were forced to deny a decisive part of their social being: to detest
their faces, their color, the particularities of their culture, and their specific
reactions in the face of life, love, death and art. All this was done so that
they would idealize the color, history and culture of Europeans."

You see, human beings are creatures of habit. Meaning, for the sake of this discussion, that once conditioned to certain & specific behavior patterns, they are difficult to break or change.

To quote from Dr Frantz Fanon, he said of Black people: 'You were enslaved by the white man. Now you enslave yourself.' These negroes can't detach from white people. They can't be free in Haiti – why? Because the elite ruling class, the majority of which are the lighter complexioned Haitians, simply hate their blackness & embrace white people & what they deem to be superior francoculture!

Baby, the illness is deep, deeply embedded in the psyche of people of Afrikan descent. I'm serious. Even among so-called politically conscious Black militants & revolutionaries, the white supremacists' toxins are alive & well, impacting & influencing their subconscious, manifesting in their words & deeds. Serious trauma is required to flush out the poisons & allow them to be healthy & wholesome.

I'm going to close this off & get it in the mail. Damn I really want this lockdown to be lifted so I can snap out of this stagnation. Stay well & safe!

10-POINT PROGRAM

1

WE WANT FREEDOM. WE WANT POWER TO DETERMINE THE DESTINY OF OUR BLACK AND OPPRESSED COMMUNITIES.

We believe that Black and oppressed people will not be free until we are able to determine our destinies in our own communities ourselves, by fully controlling all the institutions which exist in our communities.

2

WE WANT FULL EMPLOYMENT FOR OUR PEOPLE.

We believe that the federal government is responsible and obligated to give every person employment or a guaranteed income. We believe that if the American businessmen will not give full employment, then the technology and means of production should be taken from the businessmen and placed in the community so that the people of the community can organize and employ all of its people and give a high standard of living.

3

WE WANT AN END TO THE ROBBERY BY THE CAPITALISTS OF OUR BLACK AND OPPRESSED COMMUNITIES.

We believe that this racist government has robbed us and now we are demanding the overdue debt of forty acres and two mules. Forty acres and two mules were promised 100 years ago as restitution for slave labor and mass murder of Black people. We will accept the payment in currency which will be distributed to our many communities. The American racist has taken part in the slaughter of our fifty million Black people. Therefore, we feel this is a modest demand that we make.

4

WE WANT DECENT HOUSING, FIT FOR THE SHELTER OF HUMAN BEINGS.

We believe that if the landlords will not give decent housing to our Black and oppressed communities, then housing and the land should be made into cooperatives so that the people in our communities, with government aid, can build and make decent housing for the people.

5

WE WANT DECENT EDUCATION FOR OUR PEOPLE THAT EXPOSES THE TRUE NATURE OF THIS DECADENT AMERICAN SOCIETY. WE WANT EDUCATION THAT TEACHES US OUR TRUE HISTORY AND OUR ROLE IN THE PRESENT-DAY SOCIETY.

We believe in an educational system that will give to our people a knowledge of the self. If you do not have knowledge of yourself and your position in the society and in the world, then you will have little chance to know anything else.

6

WE WANT COMPLETELY FREE HEALTH CARE FOR All BLACK AND OPPRESSED PEOPLE.

We believe that the government must provide, free of charge, for the people, health facilities which will not only treat our illnesses, most of which have come about as a result of our oppression, but which will also develop preventive medical programs to guarantee our future survival. We believe that mass health education and research programs must be developed to give all Black and oppressed people access to advanced scientific and medical information, so we may provide our selves with proper medical attention and care.

7

WE WANT AN IMMEDIATE END TO POLICE BRUTALITY AND MURDER OF BLACK PEOPLE, OTHER PEOPLE OF COLOR, All OPPRESSED PEOPLE INSIDE THE UNITED STATES.

We believe that the racist and fascist government of the United States uses its domestic enforcement agencies to carry out its program of oppression against black people, other people of color and poor people inside the united States. We believe it is our right, therefore, to defend ourselves against such armed forces and that all Black and oppressed people should be armed for self defense of our homes and communities against these fascist police forces.

8

WE WANT AN IMMEDIATE END TO ALL WARS OF AGGRESSION.

We believe that the various conflicts which exist around the world stem directly from the aggressive desire of the United States ruling circle and government to force its domination upon the oppressed people of the world. We believe that if the United States government or its lackeys do not cease these aggressive wars it is the right of the people to defend themselves by any means necessary against their aggressors.

9

WE WANT FREEDOM FOR ALL BLACK AND OPPRESSED PEOPLE NOW HELD IN U. S. FEDERAL, STATE, COUNTY, CITY AND MILITARY PRISONS AND JAILS. WE WANT TRIALS BY A JURY OF PEERS FOR All PERSONS CHARGED WITH SO-CALLED CRIMES UNDER THE LAWS OF THIS COUNTRY.

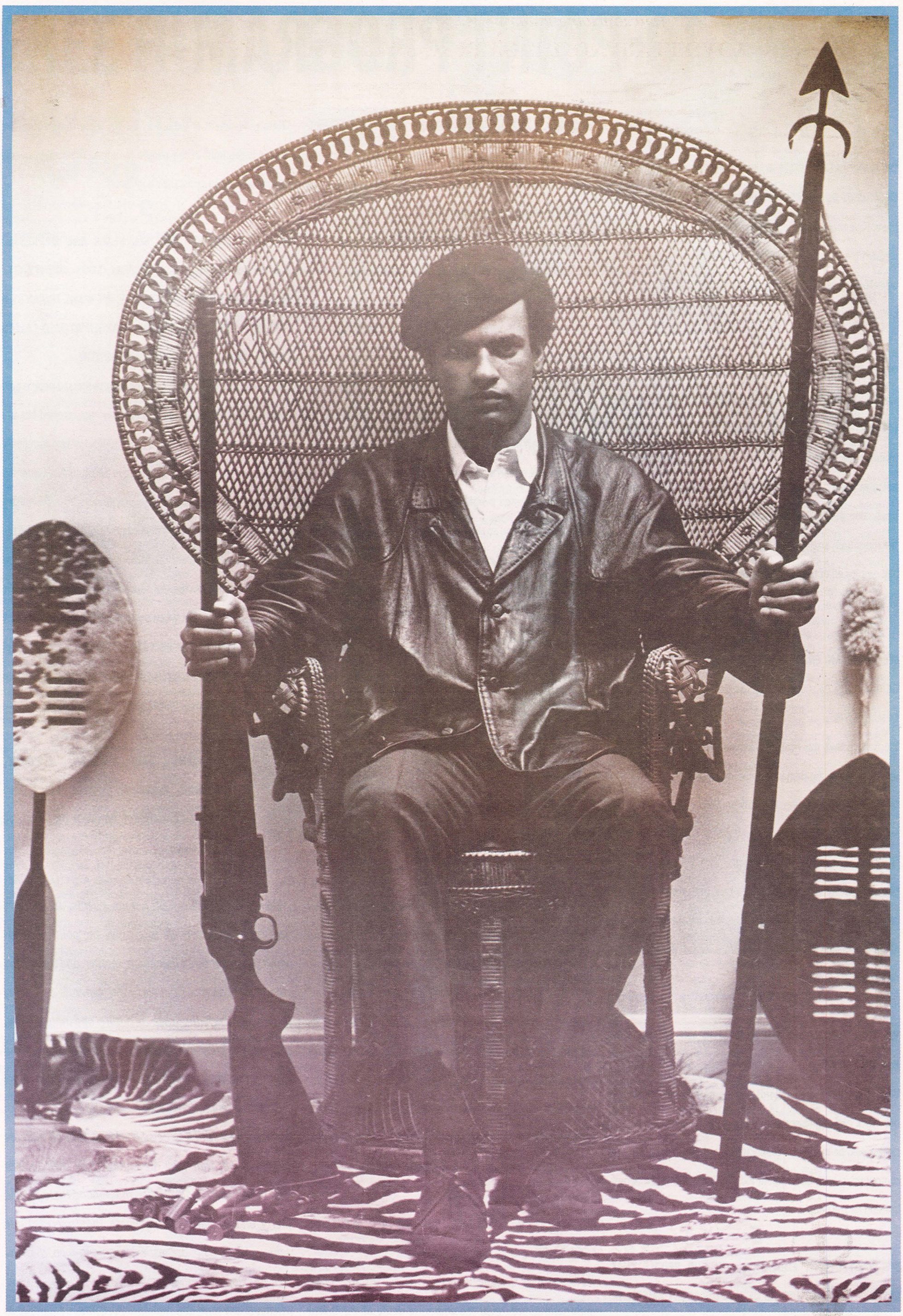
We believe that the many Black and poor oppressed people now held in United States prisons and jails have not received fair and impartial trials under a racist and fascist judicial system and should be free from incarceration. We believe in the ultimate elimination of all wretched, inhuman penal institutions, because the masses of men and women imprisoned inside the United States or by the United States military are the victims of oppressive conditions which are the real cause of their imprisonment. We believe that when persons are brought to trial they must be guaranteed, by the United States, juries of their peers, attorneys of their choice and freedom from imprisonment while awaiting trial.

10

WE WANT LAND, BREAD, HOUSING, EDUCATION, CLOTHING, JUSTICE, PEACE AND PEOPLE'S COMMUNITY CONTROL OF MODERN TECHNOLOGY.

"When, in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bonds which have connected them with another, and to assume, among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the laws of nature and nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. That to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed; that, whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or to abolish it, and to institute a new government..."



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